



FTAAAD QUARTERLY NEWS

October–December 2020 Volume 8 Issue 4

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Through the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF), the CARES Act provided payments to state, local and tribal governments navigating the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak. The total CRF funding allocated to the state of Tennessee was \$2.36 billion.

Governor Bill Lee created a strategic spending plan that ensured local needs were met while safeguarding the health and wellbeing of Tennesseans.

Some of that funding was allocated to the Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability, and then portions were funneled to the state Area Agencies on Aging. FTAAAD received a lump sum that was distributed among a number of projects that served older Northeast Tennesseans and adults with disabilities.

One such project was the production and distribution of

personal hygiene care packages that were distributed to every consumer receiving meals through FTAAAD; including regular home-delivered meals, consumers served temporarily through the restaurant initiative, and participants in the 15 congregate-meal-site programs across the district.

The packages included an FTAAAD backpack, a puzzle book, a disaster preparedness guide, information on COVID-19, an agency brochure, a roll of toilet paper, a tube of toothpaste and toothbrush, soap, disinfecting wipes, a packet of face masks, a packet of Kleenex, lip balm, and a bottle of water. These packs were assembled by FTAAAD staff and distributed to senior centers, meal sites, and participating restaurants. (See the photos on Page 4 to view the assembly process.)

—Kathy Whitaker, Director

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SAVE THE DATE!
32nd Annual
Conference on
Aging & Silent
Auction

April 27, 2021

MeadowView Conference Resort
& Convention Center

KEY DATES

NET-VAC Meeting
October 7, 9:30 am
Online Meeting
Details to Follow

NET-VAC Meeting
November 4, 9:30 am
Online Meeting
Details to Follow





SNAP SCAMS

The USDA recently issued the following notice to protect SNAP participants after receiving reports of SNAP Fraud attempts:

“Be aware of a scam using texting to obtain your personal information. The text might say you were chosen to receive food stamps or SNAP. If you do not know if a request for information about SNAP is real or not, contact your local SNAP office.”

Never share personal information with individuals or organizations that you do not know. Personal information includes your Social Security Number, bank information, or SNAP electronic benefits transfer card or PIN number.

If you think the text is a scam, do not reply at all. Just delete.”

If SNAP participants are unsure if a request for information is legitimate, USDA advises they contact their local SNAP office. If they do not know their local SNAP office, participants should contact their state agency. State contact information is available at www.fns.usda.gov/snap/state-directory. To stay on top of potential scams, please visit USDA’s SNAP scam alert webpage at www.fns.usda.gov/snap/scam-alerts.

—Courtesy of USDA



2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 11/3/2020

REGISTERED TO VOTE?



Register to Vote Online

Registering to vote, updating your address, or checking your registration status is easy, fast, and secure at GoVoteTN.com.

GoVoteTN.com



1-877-850-4959

2020 Dates & Deadlines



	March 3 Presidential Preference Primary and County Primary	August 6 State and Federal Primary and County General	November 3 State and Federal General
Voter Registration Deadline	February 3	July 7	October 5
Early Voting Period	February 12 - 25	July 17 - August 1	October 14 - 29
Absentee Deadline	February 25	July 30	October 27
Election Day	March 3	August 6	November 3

Tennessee Secretary of State



GoVoteTN App

Get ready to vote with the GoVoteTN mobile app. Find:

- Polling locations
- Sample ballots
- List of your elected officials
- Election results

Download the app at GoVoteTN.com.



Photo ID

Photo ID is required to vote. Learn more about exemptions and how to get a free photo ID at GoVoteTN.com.

SMILE ON 60+ LOW-INCOME DENTAL SERVICES

SMILE ON 60+ is a statewide program that provides oral care services to Tennessee’s low-income seniors who are 60 and over.

SMILE ON 60+ client eligibility criteria:

- Minimum of 60 years old
- Tennessee resident
- Low Income
- Dentally uninsured

Services covered through SMILE ON 60+

- All preventive, emergent, and basic restorative procedures and dentures Treatment, plus some transportation costs

The cost to receive services through SMILE ON 60+ is a \$25 fee at each appointment.

CALL 1-800-509-6055 for information.





RESTAURANT MEALS

The First Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability (FTAAAD) has contracted with the following restaurants for the Small Business Initiative, funded by the Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability (TCAD). The goal of the initiative is to contract with local, struggling restaurants whose businesses have been greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, while at the same time feeding vulnerable seniors who are highly susceptible to the Corona virus. With the funding provided, FTAAAD contracted with eight restaurants throughout our eight-county area, serving around 220 consumers five meals per week. The program started April 20, 2020, and as of September 17, 2020, the restaurants have served over 24,500 meals.

- ❑ Big H Barbecue
- ❑ Bob's Dairyland
- ❑ Fit Clean Meals
- ❑ Lynn Garden Restaurant
- ❑ Michael's Diner
- ❑ Nick's Family Restaurant
- ❑ Pennyman's Diner
- ❑ Telford Diner

—Courtesy of Lee Gay, FTAAAD



MEDICARE ANNUAL ENROLLMENT PERIOD

Medicare's Annual Enrollment Period is October 15 – December 7. This is the period each year when Medicare beneficiaries can join, switch or drop their Medicare Part D or Medicare Advantage coverage.

Medicare Part D and Medicare Advantage plans change their coverage and costs each year, so it is important to review current plans and compare them to others on the market every fall.

The Tennessee State Health Insurance Assistance Program (TN SHIP) has previously assisted Medicare beneficiaries in person during this period, answering questions and assisting them in comparing Part D or Medicare Advantage plans for the coming year.

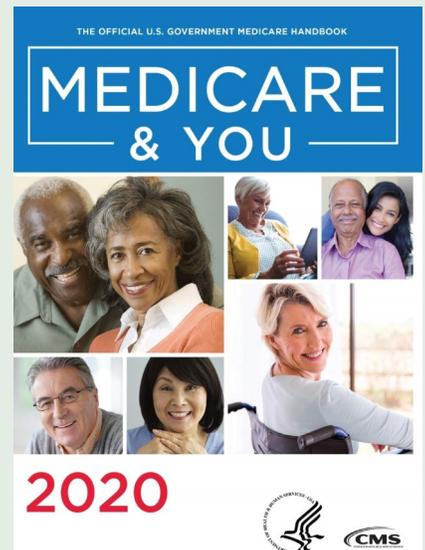
In previous years FTAAAD SHIP held Medicare Open Enrollment events at area senior and community centers to assist individuals compare plans in person. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic we will be unable to hold these in-person events in 2020. However, we are still available to help Medicare beneficiaries compare plans or answer any Medicare questions by mail, email, or phone.

Worksheets are available that Medicare beneficiaries can complete and return to SHIP for a plan comparison for 2021. You may also call us at 1-877-801-0044 or call Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

Plan information and costs for 2021 will be available after October 1, 2020.

TN SHIP is funded by a grant from the U.S. Administration for Community Living and the Department of Health and Human Services, and provides free, objective information and assistance on Medicare and related health insurance issues. TN SHIP counselors are not affiliated with any insurance company. It is administered locally by the First Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability.

—Courtesy of Melody Conkin, FTAAAD





SPECIAL FTAAAD PROJECTS IN 2020



Packaging hand sanitizer for distribution by the senior centers



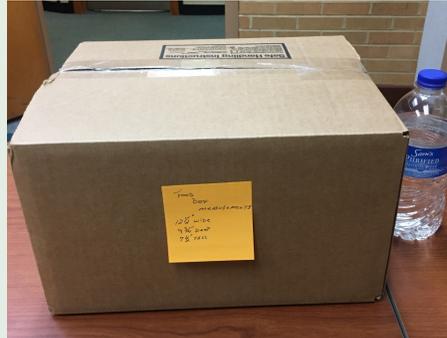
FTAAAD received a grant to purchase insulated bags for congregate meal sites



MyRide coordinators appeared on Daytime TriCities



Another FTAAAD grant purchased emergency food boxes



Emergency food boxes will be available for consumers in need



A third FTAAAD grant purchased personal care items for care packages



FTAAAD staff packaging face masks for care packages



The Kingsport Senior Center receiving care packages for distribution



Packages were also delivered to all home-delivered meal recipients



FTAAAD

First Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability

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No person shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

The services of the FTAAAD are funded in part by Title III of the Older Americans Act and State funds through grants from the Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability. Contributions are encouraged to support all programs but no one is refused service for inability to pay.

The FTAAAD is part of the First Tennessee Development District.



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facebook

Scan our QR code to go directly to the FTAAAD website

www.facebook.com/ftaaad



PHOTO GALLERY



RESTAURANT INITIATIVE

Lynn Garden Restaurant delivers daily meals to local Sullivan County consumers in need.

RESTAURANT INITIATIVE

Fit Clean Meals cooks and delivers hot meals to consumers all across Northeast Tennessee.



RESTAURANT INITIATIVE

Michael's Restaurant in Sneedville delivers daily meals, as well as the care packages FTAAAD prepared.

